

Dear Members of Labor and Public Employees Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly:

My name is Josh Michtom and I live in Hartford, Connecticut. I support Senate Bill No. 1178: *An Act Expanding Connecticut Paid Sick Days*.

As a City Councilman representing the diverse people of Hartford, I see every day the effects that my constituents experience from a lack of access to care.

Hartford residents are mechanics, plumbers, construction workers, and cleaners and they deserve to be included in any policy determining their rights as workers.

Health hazards and conditions do not only affect certain workers or certain populations, but they also affect us all regardless of whether we work for a local contractor or a mega-corporation, and so we need to guarantee access to Paid Sick days to as many Connecticut residents as possible.

As such, I support an expansion of Paid Sick Days as outlined in Senate Bill No. 1178: *An Act Expanding Connecticut Paid Sick Days*.

1. Cover all workers regardless of employer size or industry!
2. Eliminates the waiting period to take a paid sick day from 680 hours to immediately after you start working!
3. Include all types of family structures and relationships which will allow workers to care for a child of any age, as well as their chosen family! The bill would also allow you to take paid sick time to care for a family member who experiences family violence or sexual assault.
4. Increase the number of hours of paid sick time workers can accrue and use per year from 40 to 80 hours.
5. Protect against future pandemics by allowing paid sick time to be used when a worker's place of work or child's school/place of care is closed by public officials for a public health emergency!

Thank you for your time,
Josh Michtom Hartford, CT